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COUNTY BOROUGH OF WARRINGTON.

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*Annual Report*  
TO THE  
**Education Authority**  
ON  
**SCHOOL HYGIENE**

For the Year

**1946**

**STUART F. ALLISON,**  
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Medical Officer of Health  
and School Medical Officer.*



WARRINGTON

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# SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE COMMITTEE.

## LIST OF MEMBERS, 1946.

Ald. J. Canon Bardsley  
 Coun. Bernard Caldwell  
 Coun. William G. Caldwell  
 Coun. Harold Gray  
 Coun. Herbert Harding  
 Coun. Mrs. Mary Hardman  
 Coun. Archer Hodgkinson  
 Coun. Harry Hardman  
 Mr. John Helsby, J.P.  
 Mrs. A. L. Hindle  
 Rev. Joseph Russell

Alderman EDWARD MARSHALL (chairman)  
*Ex-Officio* : Alderman DAVID PLINSTON, J.P.  
 (Chairman of the Education Committee)  
 Rev. EDWARD DOWNHAM, B.A.  
 (Deputy-Chairman of the Education Committee)  
 Chief Education Officer : ROBERT E. PRESSWOOD, B.Sc., M.Ed.  
 Assistant Education Officer : Mr. R. PRICE

## OFFICIALS:

Office Held	Name	Qualifications
School Medical Officer ....	STUART F. ALLISON	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Asst. School Medical Officer .....	C. A. PAULUSZ.....	L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Ed.), L.R.F.P. & S. (Glas.), L.M.R.C.P.I., D.P.H.
Senior Dental Officer	WILLIAM C. PARR ....	L.D.S. (Liverpool).
Asst. Dental Officer	Mrs. P. LAWTON .....	L.D.S.
Supervisor of Health Visitors and School Nurses .....	Vacancy.	
School Nurse .....	Miss S. GRIFFITH ....	General Cert. S.R.N., Hygiene Cert. (Queens)
Health Visitor-School Nurses (joint appointment) .....	Miss W. M. EVANS Miss M. NEWBOLD Miss J. TWIST Miss S. M. SWIFT Miss E. MACREA Miss M. LEA Miss M. A. COWLEY }	General Training Cert., S.R.N., S.C.M., Health Visitors' Cert.
Orthoptist .....	Mrs. M. FLEMING	
Dental Attendants .....	Miss E. F. BROWN Miss P. J. LAWTON	
Clerical Staff :—		
Dental Clerk .....	Temporary Appointment	
Medical Inspection Clerk .....	Temporary Appointment	
School Health Service Clerk .....	Mr. J. ACTON	
Special Officer .....	Mr. W. WOODALL	
School Attendance Clerk	Mr. J. BENION	

## SCHOOL CLINICS.

Inspection Clinic (page 17)	Health Dept., Sankey Street	Examination of cases referred by Teachers, Attendance Officers, Nurses, &c.	9.30—12 noon Monday to Saturday
Minor Ailment Clinic (page 17.)	Ditto.	Treatment of contagious diseases of skin, eyes, &c.	Ditto.
Dental Clinic (page 23.)	Ditto.	Dental Treatment	9.30 a.m. to 12 noon 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Orthoptic Clinic (page 21.)	Warrington General Hospital	Examination & treatment of cases of Squint	Daily
Vision Clinic	Ditto.	Prescription of Spectacles	9 a.m. Fridays
Nose and Throat Clinic	Ditto.	Treatment of enlarged tonsils and adenoids	Thursday, 4 p.m. for examination Operations on following Thursday By appointment
	Warrington Infirmary	Treatment of ring-worm of scalp	
	Warrington General Hospital	Treatment of Crippling Defects	Daily, 9 a.m.
	Ditto.	Treatment of cases of aural discharge by ionisation	Daily, 9 a.m.

TO THE EDUCATION AUTHORITY OF THE  
COUNTY BOROUGH OF WARRINGTON.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report upon the School Health Services for the year 1946.

Of necessity the report is mainly statistical. During the year there has been no substantial change or expansion in the general form of the School Health Services. The policy of supplying one-third of a pint of milk to all children in school free of charge commenced in August, 1946. While the quantity supplied is perhaps not as much as might be desired in those cases most urgently requiring it, at least every child is sure to receive some milk daily and no doubt when supplies of milk improve this quantity will be increased. The value of milk as a body-building food cannot be over-emphasised, supplying as it does those important mineral salts which are otherwise so often lacking from a child's diet and without which normal healthy growth is impossible.

It has not yet been possible to establish a Child Guidance Clinic or to extend the minor ailment clinic due to shortage of accommodation.

The average number of children on the rolls of the schools, including Nursery Classes, was 12,020.

3127 children were examined at School Medical Inspection; in addition 1,745 special examinations and 622 reinspections were carried out in school or at the clinic, making a total of 5,494 examinations. 256 (i.e., 8.18%) of the children undergoing routine School Medical Inspection were found suffering from defects requiring treatment.

322 children made 2042 attendances at the school clinic to receive treatment for minor ailments, and 21,988 dressings were carried out at school.

111 schoolchildren were treated for Scabies at the Special Treatment Centre, a decrease of 112 from last year's figure.

Efforts were continued to immunise all pre-school and schoolchildren, and 640 of the former and 100 of the latter were protected. There are still quite a number of children reaching school age without being immunised against diphtheria, but this number is gradually reducing as the importance of protection against diphtheria is being increasingly recognised by parents.

I have to acknowledge my indebtedness to the Chairman, Mr. Alderman E. Marshall, and all the members of the School Medical Service Committee for their continued help and interest; to the Chief Education Officer and all the teachers for their valuable assistance; and I have also to offer my thanks to Dr. Paulusz, the School Dentists, the School Nurses and the School Health Clerical staff.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

STUART F. ALLISON.



1.—The Staff (as detailed on page 2) keeps under supervision the 12,020 children at present on the school registers.

### Cost.

Rateable value, 1st April, 1946 .....	£436,779
Estimated product of 1d. rate, 1946-47 .....	£1,740
Total estimated expenditure on Education 1946-47 .....	£313,441
Total estimated cost of Special Services for Education <i>i.e.</i> , School Health, Blind, Deaf Schools, etc., 1946-47 .....	£12,560
Total estimated net cost of School Health Services .....	£12,480
Net cost on the rates of School Health Services .....	£5,131
Cost per head of children on School roll.....	{ 20s. 10d. gross 8s. 6d. net

## 2.—CO-ORDINATION WITH OTHER HEALTH SERVICES.

There has always been close co-operation between the work of the School Health Service and that of the Local Health Department, as described in former Reports.

By means of daily lists of cases admitted and discharged from the Corporation Hospitals the School Nurses are enabled to obtain early information of cases of illness occurring in school children and take any necessary steps to follow them up.

### Co-ordination with Child Welfare Service.

The method of transference of records from the Maternity and Child Welfare Department to the Schools has been described in previous Reports.

## 3.—SANITARY CONDITION OF THE SCHOOLS.

Supervision is constantly given to the hygienic conditions, especially as regards their surroundings, ventilation, lighting, heating, equipment and sanitation, and summaries of the conditions found have been given from time to time in previous reports.

#### 4.—MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The Routine Medical Inspections are conducted by the Assistant School Medical Officer at the various schools in the Borough.

All routine inspections are made on the school premises. The Ministry of Education schedule of medical inspection is followed in every instance, and there has been no disturbance of the ordinary school arrangements.

#### Age Groups Inspected.

The Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations, 1945, made under the Education Act, 1944, provide that pupils shall undergo a thorough routine medical examination at the following times in their school life:—

- (a) as soon as possible after admission to a maintained school,
- (b) during the last year of attendance at a maintained Primary School,
- (c) during the last year of attendance at a maintained Secondary School.

Pupils in the above age-groups have been examined in 1946. Owing to the absence through illness of the Assistant School Medical Officer during the early part of the year it was not possible to complete the three groups within the year and a number of examinations in the Entrant and Leaver Groups has been carried forward into 1947. Details of examinations by age-groups are shown in Table I (page 33)

Comparative figures of the total number of routine inspections for the last five years are given below:—

1946	....	....	....	....	3127
1945	....	....	....	....	3562
1944	....	....	....	....	3358
1943	....	....	....	....	3613
1942	....	....	....	....	3385



## Special Examinations.

In addition to the routine medical inspections, many children are examined by the doctor each year. The teachers submit any special case to him in the schools after the routine inspection is ended. Special cases may at any time be sent to the School Clinic.

Thus in 1946 the following were dealt with :—

“Specials” at School and Clinic      ....      .... 1,745  
(compared with 2,470 in 1945)

## Re-Examinations.

Then again, various additional examinations and re-examinations are carried out, both in the Schools and the Clinic in connection with the following up of defects. The number of such Re-inspections was 622 (compared with 1256 in 1945).

## 5.—FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Out of 3,127 children examined in our Schools at the Routine Inspections during 1946, 256, or 8.18%, were found to require treatment for one or more defects. In addition, a number with defects required to be kept under observation although no actual treatment was necessary at the time. Table I (D) in the Appendix (page 34), gives a return of the various defects found, whilst the number of pupils affected is shown as follows :—

*Number of individual pupils found at Routine Medical Inspection to require treatment (excluding uncleanliness and dental diseases).*

Group.	Number of pupils		Percentage of pupils found to require treatment.
	Inspected.	Found to require treatment.	
Entrants      ....      ....	1318	109	8.27%
Intermediates      ....      ....	1088	108	9.92%
Leavers      ....      ....	520	18	3.46%
Other Routine Inspections	201	21	10.44%
Total      ....	3127	256	8.18%

The proportion of pupils showing defects in all three groups is compared in the following table with the figures for England and Wales.

## Return Showing

- (1) The number of defects found among 3,127 pupils at the routine examinations, 1946.
- (2) The incidence of defects requiring treatment and observation per 1,000 pupils examined in 1946.
- (3) The average incidence of defects amongst school children throughout England and Wales.

Group of Defects.	Treatment.			Observation.		
	Number of Defects requiring treatment.	Incidence of Defects per 1,000 pupils inspected.	Incidence of Defects per 1,000 pupils in England and Wales in 1938.	Number of Defects requiring observation.	Incidence of Defects per 1,000 pupils inspected.	Incidence of Defects per 1,000 pupils in England and Wales in 1938.
Skin Disease....	26	8.3	10.5	2	0.6	2.8
Defects of Vision ....	61	37.9*	74.0*	1	0.6*	41.7*
Squint ....	19	6.1	8.1	1	0.3	5.1
Other Eye Diseases ....	3	0.9	6.4	2	0.6	2.6
Defects of Hearing ....	—	—	2.9	2	0.6	2.6
Otitis Media ....	—	—	4.0	—	—	1.8
Chronic Tonsilitis ....	84	26.8	20.5	82	26.2	49.4
Adenoids ....	6	1.9	2.7	5	1.6	3.1
Adenoids and Chronic Tonsilitis ....	12	3.8	20.0	1	0.3	12.6
Other Nose and Throat Defects ....	—	—	6.7	1	0.3	6.6
Defects of Speech ....	—	—	1.5	24	7.7	3.0
Organic Heart Disease ....	—	—	1.6	7	2.2	3.8
Pulmonary Tuberculosis :						
(a) Definite ....	—	—	0.1	—	—	0.1
(b) Suspected ....	—	—	0.4	—	—	0.5
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ....	—	—	0.5	2	0.6	0.9
Epilepsy ....	—	—	0.2	5	1.6	0.4
Chorea ....	—	—	0.4	5	1.6	0.5
Other Nervous Conditions ....	—	—	1.5	4	1.3	2.3
Deformities :						
Rickets ....	—	—	1.1	—	—	2.4
Spinal Curvature ....	2	0.6	2.8	2	0.6	2.6
Other Forms ....	34	10.9	10.2	11	3.5	9.5

\*In calculating this figure the entrants and other routine inspections have been left out.

The following are some of the points revealed by the year's work so far as the routine medical inspections by the School Medical Officer are concerned :—

### (a) Nutrition and Malnutrition.

Close observation has been kept on the nutrition of pupils in our schools during the year.

### Height and Weight.

The height and weight of every pupil is measured at the time of routine inspection, and the following table shows the average at different ages :—

	Heights		Weights	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Entrants :—	ft. ins.	ft. ins.	st. lb. oz.	st. lb. oz.
Age 4 .....	3 4.1	3 3.9	2 10 7	2 10 4
Age 5 .....	3 6.4	3 6	3 0 5	2 12 11
Age 6 .....	3 8.2	3 8.1	3 3 13	3 2 8
Age 7 .....	3 10.3	3 9.1	3 8 6	3 4 3
Intermediates :—				
Age 10 .....	4 6	4 5.9	5 1 8	5 0 4
Leavers :—				
Age 13 .....	4 11	4 11.5	6 6 0	6 10 4
Other Routine Inspections (Nursery Classes) :—				
Age 3 .....	3 2.2	3 1.3	2 6 13	2 5 1
Age 4 .....	3 3.7	3 3.7	2 9 8	2 9 4

*Notes.*—In the case of the Entrant Group, the Intermediate Group, and the Nursery Classes the average age is higher than the age shown by approximately four months, while in the Leaver Group the average age is 13 years and 9 months.

It is to be observed from these measurements that the average of recent years has been maintained.

### Nutrition.

The Board of Education in Memorandum 124, issued at the end of 1934, pointed out that it was desirable that statistical returns from all Local Education Authorities should be classified in a precise and uniform manner.

The returns (pages 10 and 35) are, therefore, in accordance with this classification divided into Excellent, Normal, Slightly Sub-normal and Bad.



**Nutrition**

					<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>
Age Groups				Number examined	Excellent	Normal	Slightly Sub- Normal	Bad
Entrants—								
Boys, age	3	.....		11	2	9	—	—
„	4	.....		76	15	55	6	—
„	5	.....		350	57	271	19	3
„	6	.....		229	35	182	11	1
„	7	.....		20	4	15	1	—
„	8	.....		1	—	1	—	—
Girls, age	3	.....		5	—	5	—	—
„	4	.....		76	15	59	2	—
„	5	.....		316	38	262	16	—
„	6	.....		206	35	153	15	3
„	7	.....		23	3	18	2	—
„	8	.....		5	1	4	—	—
Total .....				1318	205	1034	72	7
Percentage .....					15.56%	78.45%	5.46%	0.53%
Intermediates—								
Boys, age	10	.....		579	42	485	45	7
Girls, age	10	.....		509	54	410	45	—
Total .....				1088	96	895	90	7
Percentage .....					8.83%	82.26%	8.27%	0.64%
Leavers—								
Boys, age	13	.....		258	32	192	33	1
Girls, age	13	.....		251	56	173	20	2
Total .....				509	88	365	53	3
Percentage .....					17.29%	71.71%	10.41%	0.59%
Junior Technical School....				11	3	8	—	—
Percentage .....					27.27%	72.73%		
Partially-sighted Class .....				7	2	3	2	—
Percentage .....					28.57%	42.86%	28.57%	—
Nursery Classes—								
Boys, age	2	.....		2	—	2	—	—
„	3	.....		46	8	35	3	—
„	4	.....		61	15	40	6	—
Girls, age	2	.....		2	—	1	1	—
„	3	.....		36	3	27	6	—
„	4	.....		47	13	31	3	—
Total .....				194	39	136	19	—
Percentage .....					20.10%	70.10%	9.80%	—
Grand Total.....				3127	433	2441	236	17
Percentage .....					13.85%	78.06%	7.55%	0.54%

### (b) Uncleanliness.

Out of 3,127 pupils examined by the doctor at the Routine Inspections, only 5, or .16%, were found to have verminous heads in greater or lesser degree.

1937	....	....	....	....	....	.19%
1938	....	....	....	....	....	.09%
1939	....	....	....	....	....	.26%
1940	....	....	....	....	....	.22%
1941	....	....	....	....	....	.02%
1942	....	....	....	....	....	.05%
1943	....	....	....	....	....	.05%
1944	....	....	....	....	....	.05%
1945	....	....	....	....	....	.05%
1946	....	....	....	....	....	.16%

### (c) Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.

Impetigo amongst school children has diminished during recent years, and we rarely find those severe cases of involvement of the scalp that used to be so common, especially amongst girls, a few years ago. Out of 3,127 pupils examined at routine inspections, 5, or .16%, were found to be suffering from impetigo.

No cases of ringworm of the scalp were found, but there were 17 cases of scabies.

The number of cases of conjunctivitis and blepharitis found during the year was 3 (.09%).

The continuous work of the Nurses in the schools contributes largely to the reduction in the minor ailments now discovered at routine inspections.

### (d) Visual Defects.

78.99% of the pupils examined in the two senior age groups were found to have perfectly normal vision. The eyesight of the entrants is not tested unless in exceptional circumstances.

In the Intermediate and Leaver Groups, the vision of 1,604 children was examined and 59 pupils, or 3.68%, were found to require treatment.

The following table shows the results of the examinations of the two groups :—

Age Group	Number examined	6/6	6/9	6/12	†WG	aT	*NGI
Intermediates—							
Boys .....	578	452	52	16	27	27	4
Girls .....	507	400	41	10	33	20	3*
Leavers—							
Boys .....	257	204	14	5	21	6	7
Girls .....	251	200	11	6	24	6	4
Junior Technical School .....	11	11	—	—	—	—	—
Total .....	1604	1267	118	37	105	59	18
Percentage .....		78.99	7.36	2.31	6.54	3.68	1.12

\*NGI—No glasses improve.

†WG—Wearing glasses.

aT—Treatment required.

The following is a summary showing the degree of defect among the 59 pupils requiring treatment :—

Number referred for refraction for :—

Vision—6/18 in both eyes ....	9
6/18 in one eye and good or fair vision in the other ....	22
6/24 in both eyes ....	2
6/24 in one eye and 6/18 in other eye ....	3
6/24 in one eye and good or fair vision in the other ....	8
6/36 in both eyes ....	1
6/36 in one eye and 6/24 or 6/18 in the other ....	1
6/36 in one eye and good or fair vision in the other ....	4
6/60 in both eyes ....	—
6/60 in one eye and 6/36, 6/24, or 6/18 in other eye ....	1
6/60 in one eye and good or fair vision in the other ....	2
less than 6/60 in both eyes ....	—
less than 6/60 in one eye and 6/36, 6/24, or 6/18 in other eye ....	—
less than 6/60 in one eye and good or fair vision in the other ....	1
With Squint ....	—
Glasses unsuitable and requiring re-examination ....	3
Near Vision ....	2
	59



### **(e) Nose and Throat Defects.**

The total number of cases of nose and throat disease requiring treatment was 102, or 3.26%.

For the treatment of enlarged tonsils and adenoids, see page 22.

### **(f) Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.**

At Routine Inspections, 6 cases of Aural Discharge were discovered, 9 cases of wax in ears, and one case of polypus. See remarks on prevention of deafness (page 23).

### **(g) Dental Defects.**

The School Medical Officer refers to the Dental Officer for treatment all pupils with four or more decayed teeth, or any pupils who are obviously suffering from lack of attention to the mouth.

### **(h) Orthopædic and Postural Defects.**

40 children suffering from these defects were found at the inspections and those who were not already under treatment were referred to the Orthopædic Surgeon (see page 23).

### **(i) Heart Disease and Rheumatism.**

Seven cases of organic heart disease and three cases of functional heart disease were discovered, and kept under special observation on this account.

All these children and those exhibiting any rheumatic manifestations are kept under special supervision throughout the year.

### **(j) Tuberculosis.**

No cases of suspected tuberculosis were discovered at the Routine Inspection.

## (k) Other Defects and Diseases.

## ROUTINE INSPECTIONS

	Requiring Treatment	To be kept under observation
Ganglion ....	1	—
Defective gait ....	—	1
Epistaxis ....	—	1
Infantile paralysis ....	—	1
Chicken pox (exclude) ....	1	—
Old Hemiplegia ....	—	1
Weak ankles ....	1	—
Educationally sub-normal ....	—	53
Facial twitching ....	1	1
? Feet ....	—	1
Debility ....	—	1
? Hip ....	—	1
Ankylosis ....	—	1
Rheumatism ....	—	2
Callosity on foot ....	1	—
Hammer toes ....	—	1
	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 65

## SPECIAL INSPECTIONS

Weak ankles ....	6	—
Ganglion ....	2	—
Prominent heel ....	1	—
Arthritis ....	2	—
Infantile paralysis ....	1	—
Bony prominence (metatarsal) ....	1	—
? Foot ....	13	—
? Wrist ....	1	—
Fracture, left tibia ....	1	—
Amyotonia ....	1	—
Fracture, thigh ....	1	—
? Elbow ....	2	—
Old Hemiplegia ....	1	—
Verrucae ....	2	—
Weakness of legs ....	1	—
Pinks Disease ....	1	—
Injury to hip ....	1	—
Injury to knee ....	1	—
Educationally sub-normal ....	—	1
Debility ....	—	1
	<hr/> 39	<hr/> 2

**Exclusions.**—All children suffering from infectious or contagious disease who may be a danger to the other children, and all cases in which the condition necessitates absence from school, are at once excluded by the A.S.M.O. at the time of his inspections. Slight cases are not excluded, but referred for treatment to the Nurses at their bi-weekly visits. The following are the cases excluded during 1946 at both routine and special inspections. In addition, 54 children were referred to the Nurses for treatment in schools as not being serious enough to exclude :—

	Exclusions	Treatment in School		Exclusions	Treatment in School
Uncleanliness—Head	1	4	Conjunctivitis .....	—	—
Body	—	8	Aural Discharge ....	—	6
Ringworm—Head	—	—	Wax in Ears .....	—	9
Body	—	—	Chicken Pox .....	1	—
Scabies .....	1	16			
Impetigo .....	1	4			
Other Skin Diseases	—	4	Total ....	4	54
Blepharitis .....	—	3			

### **Further examination of cases selected at the Inspections in the Schools.**

The further examination of certain cases is made at the Inspection Clinic when necessary. These cases consist of children whom it is impossible to examine thoroughly during the Routine Examination.

In 1946 there were 28 such examinations.

### **Other Medical Inspection Work.**

In addition to the Routine inspection work and the examinations of children in the schools in the afternoons, further examinations of cases and contacts are carried out at the Clinic every morning (see page 17).

## **6.—“FOLLOWING-UP” OF CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM PHYSICAL DEFECTS AND WORK OF THE SCHOOL NURSES.**

The procedure adopted in the following-up of the cases to see that defects found at routine and other inspections are dealt with promptly and satisfactorily has been explained in former Reports.

Only as a last resort are parents summoned to attend before the School Medical Service Committee for not obtaining satisfactory treatment for their children.

### **Work of the School Nurses.**

(a) IN THE SCHOOLS (see page 19).

The examination and dressing of the children are carried out either in the medical room or staff room in the newer schools, or, where there is no such accommodation, in the cloak room or sometimes in a screened-off portion of a class room.

The work comprises dressings of discharging ears, sore eyes, impetigo, eczema, supervision of minor ailments which are being treated at home, orthopædic cases, and all children who have been found unsatisfactory at a surprise visit (nits, unclean, defective footgear, or clothing).



Classes in which cases of Scarlet Fever or Diphtheria have occurred are examined and suspicious cases excluded.

Any children sent by the teachers for special defects or neglect are also inspected.

On Wednesdays surprise visits are paid to the schools by the nurses. Every child in the school is seen by the nurse and examined for nits, cleanliness of body and clothing, and defective footgear. The names and addresses of all unsatisfactory children are taken and home visits are made whenever possible. All such children are seen at subsequent visits to the school.

**(b) IN THE HOMES AND IN THE SCHOOL CLINIC.**

One nurse attends the minor ailments clinic in the mornings and routine medical inspections in the schools during the afternoon, followed by work in the clinic again at 4 p.m. attending to "after-school" cases. A large number of miscellaneous cases have been dealt with in the homes and in the schools.

Full particulars of this work are given on pages 18-20, and apart from this the following is a summary of the activities of the Nurses for the year 1946 :—

Visits paid to Schools to treat minor ailments ....	1,558
No. of Dressings in School (see page 20) ....	21,988
Visits to homes of children (in many cases assisting with treatment) ....	395
Special re Infectious Disease ....	4
Attendances at Routine Medical Inspection in the Schools with the A.S.M.O. ....	158
Notices sent to teachers with reference to excluded children ....	384
"Surprise Visits" to Schools ....	276
Special Visits (to Schools) re Infectious Disease ....	11
Cases of tonsils and adenoids after operation kept under observation ....	206
Assisted at Immunizing sessions ....	19

## **7.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF CHILDREN DURING 1946**

In endeavouring to secure treatment for ailing school children, use is made of all existing agencies, and in addition a large number of cases are referred under supervision for treatment in their own homes.

Whenever the circumstances warrant it, cases are induced to obtain treatment from a private medical practitioner.

A list of the days and hours of attendance at the various Clinics is given on page 2.

### **A.—Minor Ailments**

As will be observed from the following table, there has been a further decrease in the number of children attending the inspection and treatment clinics. This is mainly due to a reduction in the number of cases of scabies.

## INCIDENCE OF MINOR AILMENTS.

	No. of children attending		No. having Home Treatment	No. of Treatments in the school Dressings
	Inspection Clinic	Treatment Clinic		
1927 .....	2,535	1,633	303	31,639
1928 .....	1,348	844	172	36,638
1929 .....	897	388	247	28,139
1930 .....	858	326	306	27,025
1931 .....	953	363	310	32,837
1932 .....	889	365	251	29,319
1933 .....	810	363	215	23,763
1934 .....	751	364	192	30,610
1935 .....	560	262	157	24,276
1936 .....	600	291	166	21,514
1937 .....	587	297	173	22,663
1938 .....	781	341	279	24,054
1939 .....	592	306	96	18,313
1940 .....	814	478	137	27,140
1941 .....	1,165	861	154	18,493
1942 .....	1,419	1168	120	15,662
1943 .....	1,323	1116	123	16,565
1944 .....	991	745	—	19,637
1945 .....	810	494	143	23,283
1946 .....	630	322	120	21,988

Minor ailments are potential sources of more serious conditions if neglected, and they certainly lead to a considerable loss of attendance at school of the children affected, thereby interfering considerably with their education.

**Inspection Clinic.** (For cases referred by School Nurses, School Teachers, School Attendance Officers, and others.)

	Boys.	Girls.	Total
Ringworm (Scalp)....	2	1	3
„ (Skin) ....	5	—	5
Conjunctivitis ....	1	—	1
Blepharitis ....	1	1	2
Impetigo (Scalp) ....	57	78	135
„ (Skin) ....	37	35	72
Scabies ....	58	53	111
Pediculosis (Scalp) ....	20	156	176
„ (Body) ....	26	19	45
Miscellaneous ....	42	38	80
Totals ....	249	381	630

(The miscellaneous cases consist of various ailments, such as sores on the feet or legs, herpes, scalds, bruises, abscesses, etc.)

In 1944 the numbers were : Boys 449, Girls 542 ; Total 991.

„ 1945 „ „ „ : Boys 330, Girls 480 ; Total 810.



These cases were dealt with as follows :—

	Boys	Girls	Total
Received treatment at School Clinic (excluded from school) ....	165	157	322
Referred for treatment at home ....	13	107	120
Found fit on first attendance ....	45	88	133
Referred to Infirmary ....	3	1	4
Referred to private practitioners....	23	28	51
Totals ....	249	381	630

So far as the Local Authority is concerned the treatment of minor ailments may be divided into 3 groups :—

1. Treatment at the School Clinic.
2. Treatment in the Schools.
3. Treatment in the Homes.

### (1)—Treatment at the School Clinic.

When a child is suffering from an ailment that from its contagiousness may spread to other children, or when the attendance of a child in school may be harmful for other reasons, the case is excluded for treatment, and in the majority of instances of minor ailments this treatment is sought at the School Clinic. Of the cases under treatment at the Clinic, 63 boys and 81 girls were given Vitamins A. and D, and their conditions greatly improved as a result.

The following table gives a summary of the cases dealt with in this way :—

### Number of Cases Treated at the Clinic.

Disease	No of cases treated in School Clinic	Total No. of attendances	No. of days under treatment
Scabies, baths.....	111	759	—
Ringworm (Skin) .....	5	17	19
„ (Scalp) .....	3	121	227
Conjunctivitis.....	1	1	1
Impetigo (Skin) .....	68	260	373
„ (Scalp) .....	111	778	880
Blepharitis, &c. ....	1	4	4
Miscellaneous.....	22	102	135
Total .....	322	2042	—
In 1945 .....	494	2726	—

This total of 322 is also shown in the Appendix on page 36.



In addition, 93 children put in 186 attendances at the Clinic after school hours for defects which did not render it necessary for them to be absent from school.

		Boys.	Girls.	Total
Impetigo (Skin) ....	....	39	19	58
Impetigo (Scalp) ....	....	8	1	9
Blepharitis, etc. ....	....	14	5	19
Aural Discharge ....	....	2	3	5
Miscellaneous ....	....	59	36	95
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		122	64	186

Miscellaneous cases consist of boils, burns, eczema, injuries, septic sores, ped. cap., nasal discharge.

### Ringworm of the Scalp.

There has been a decrease both in the incidence of ringworm of the scalp and in the length of time taken to cure this disease since the provision of X-ray treatment for the condition by the Local Authority.

During 1946 three cases received X-ray treatment.

### Scabies.

Owing to the decrease in the number of cases of scabies the treatment centre at the Corporation Baths (First Aid Post) was closed at the end of 1944, since when all cases have been dealt with at the Whitecross Institution.

The treatment and preventive measures are carried out in accordance with the Memorandum issued by the Ministry of Health (Prevalence and Control of Scabies) and two Medical Officers are available as Consultants, the subsequent supervision of the cases being conducted by the Health Visitors and School Nurses.

During the year 1946, 111 children of school age were treated at the scabies clinic.

### (2)—Treatment in the Schools.

Our arrangements for dealing bi-weekly with minor ailments in the schools have been detailed in previous Reports.

Altogether, the Nurses paid 1558 visits to the schools, an average of 34 to each department, not including "surprise" visits.

During these visits, 6 children (4 boys and 2 girls) were excluded for infectious diseases, 71 for contagious diseases (30 boys, 41 girls), 49 for scabies (23 boys, 26 girls), and 147 for uncleanliness (41 boys, 106 girls).

15 children (8 boys and 7 girls) were also excluded on account of miscellaneous conditions, making a total of 288 pupils excluded. The number excluded in 1945 was 389.

In addition, the Nurses submitted the names of 336 children to the School Medical Officer for further examination for suspected defects (113 boys and 123 girls).

The amount of work done in this connection by the School Nurses in 1946 was as follows :—

#### NUMBER OF DRESSINGS IN THE SCHOOLS.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Impetigo (Scalp) .....	273	289	562
„ (Skin) .....	9,713	8,634	18,347
Eczema .....	123	65	188
Eyes .....	557	456	1,013
Ears.....	1,103	775	1,878
	<hr/> 11,769	<hr/> 10,219	<hr/> 21,988

There are approximately 200 school working days and this shows that more than 109 cases of minor ailments are dealt with by the Nurses in the schools each day apart from the work of the Clinic.

The total number of children attended to each year in school is seen from the following figures :—

			Number of School Dressings.
1946	....	....	21988
1945	....	....	23283
1944	....	....	19637
1943	....	....	16565

In addition to the dressings and apart from the work of “surprise visits,” the Nurses supervise cases of uncleanliness and pediculosis, and in this connection 611 boys and 1,357 girls were examined on 2,856 and 12,121 occasions respectively.

### (3)—Treatment in the Homes.

Certain cases are referred for treatment in their own homes. These cases have to attend from time to time at the Clinic for instruction and supervision as to the results of treatment.

During 1946 the following received attention :—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Pediculosis of the head ....	6	98	104
Pediculosis of the body and uncleanliness ....	7	9	16
	<hr/> 13	<hr/> 107	<hr/> 120

There is a decrease in the number of cases, compared with the previous year.

The School Nurses visit the homes to advise the mothers with regard to treatment and to see that it is adequately carried out. Altogether 399 visits were paid in 1946.

Visits to homes, 395, special re infection, 4, total 399.

### B.—Treatment of Visual Defects.

The cases of refraction are dealt with at the Warrington General Hospital.

From Table III Group II, page 36, it will be seen that 522 cases of defective vision were dealt with during the year, 512 under the L.E.A.’s scheme, 2 by private practitioner, 8 otherwise.



## Orthoptic Clinic

In May, 1944, an orthoptic clinic was opened at the Warrington General Hospital to diagnose, treat, and cure all cases of squint, particularly those occurring amongst children of school age. This department is staffed by one trained Orthoptist and supervised by the Committee's Ophthalmic Surgeon.

There are two important factors associated with the development of a squint; firstly, where untreated, the sight in the squinting eye is frequently permanently defective, and secondly the appearance of the sufferer is a constant handicap and source of anxiety. The object of orthoptic treatment is to remedy both these defects, the restoration of vision in the squinting eye to normal being of paramount importance in all future treatment.

The work of the clinic was suspended in August owing to the resignation of the Orthoptist and arrangements were made for the cases under active treatment to continue their treatment at the Orthoptic Department of the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital. These arrangements continued until November, when a second Orthoptist was appointed and the clinic reopened at the Warrington General Hospital.

On the 31st December the position was as follows :—

Number on weekly treatment	....	....	....	52
Number being treated by occlusion	....	....	....	17
Number too young for treatment	....	....	....	10
Number under observation	....	....	....	5

41 children were discharged during the year, as follows :—

Cured	....	....	....	....	....	20
Unsuitable	....	....	....	....	....	5
Left district or failed to attend	....	....	....	....	....	16

Of the few children treated with occlusion, all cases have shown improvement. Among those cases on weekly treatment only one child has a divergent squint, and of the 51 with convergent squints 26 have complete suppression at their angle of squint, i.e., no simultaneous perception at the angle of squint, 21 have binocular vision fusion (very poor amplitude), and only 3 have abnormal retinal correspondence.

## Squint Operations.

Number of operations in 1946 — Nil.

## Provision of Spectacles.

During 1946, 208 pairs were provided by the Local Education Authority. The cost of these varied from 9s. 6d. per pair for cylindrical and compound lenses to 7s. for spherical lenses. From 1st April, 1945, spectacles have been provided free of charge.



## Prevention of Blindness.

Some remarks on this subject as affected by features of our School Health Service were given in the Reports for 1933 and 1934.

During 1946, 61 letters were sent to parents with reference to facilities available for advice and treatment for their children after leaving school.

## Partially-Sighted Class (Evelyn Street Council School).

A class for partially-sighted children was established at Evelyn Street Council School, and the children first attended on 18th February, 1935. During the year 1946, the highest number of children in the class at any time was 7, and on the 31st December, 1946, 6 children were in attendance. Their classification according to type of visual defect was as follows :—

Corneal Nebulæ	....	....	....	1
Retinitis Pigmentation	....	....	....	2
Nystagmus	....	....	....	2
Cataract	....	....	....	1
				—
				6
				—

Every case is submitted to the Ophthalmic Surgeon previous to admittance to the class. At quarterly intervals the Surgeon visits the class, reports as to the condition of the children and the suitability for employment of children who are about to leave school.

During the year 2 children left the partially sighted class at the age of 14 years.

The School Dentist makes a Dental Inspection of all the children.

A School Nurse makes a visit to the class twice weekly for the treatment and supervision of minor ailments, particular attention being paid to eye condition and the wearing of glasses where prescribed.

The difficulty is, however, that some of these children persist in reading ordinary type out of school hours and at home.

## C.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

From Table I (D) (page 34), it will be observed that the following defects of the nose and throat were referred for treatment :—

	At routine inspections.	At "special" examinations.
Chronic Tonsillitis	84	108
Adenoids only	6	18
Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids	12	69
Other conditions	—	1
	—	—
	102	196
	298	

In 1945 there were 437 similar cases, and 418 in 1944.

A large proportion of the "special" examinations are cases referred by general practitioners asking that the child be dealt with by the School Authority.

327 received treatment during the year (see Table III, Group III, page 37), of whom 288 underwent operations under the Authority's scheme at the Warrington General Hospital.

## Prevention of Deafness.

From the early days of medical inspection, the Local Authority has provided treatment for minor ailments, including cases of aural discharge, but many of these require specialist advice and treatment if early cure is to be obtained and deafness or other disaster eventually avoided.

A large amount of ear disease results from infectious diseases, such as measles, scarlatina, diphtheria and meningitis. An aural specialist is available for every case of these complications requiring his aid. A specialist also holds regular consultation sessions for children under five years of age, and cases from the Infant Welfare Centres or elsewhere are referred to him, and, when necessary, are admitted to the Warrington General Hospital for operation.

## D.—Treatment of Dental Defects.

I am indebted to Mr. W. C. Parr, Senior Dental Officer, for the following report on the School Dental Service during the year:—

The general good condition of the teeth of school entrants (5 years old) noticed during the war years has again been manifest, large percentages requiring little or no treatment.

Reluctance or refusal of the parents for conservative work in older children is still the greatest obstacle to treatment and accounts mainly for the large number of "casuals" treated.

Orthodontic treatment was started during the year.

It is hoped that further accommodation will become available shortly giving waiting-room facilities.

The details of dental inspection and treatment carried out during the year 1946 are shown in Table IV on page 38.

## E.—Orthopædic Treatment

The Orthopædic Clinic at the Warrington General Hospital, under Mr. Harman Taylor, Liverpool, was carried on successfully, as in previous years.

No. of first examinations by the Surgeon	....	....	....	139
No. of cases dealt with at the Clinic during the year	....	....	....	215
No. of cases in which operations have been performed	....	....	....	21
No. of children who have attended the Clinic for remedial treatment	....	....	....	145
No. of cases in which appliances have been ordered	....	....	....	110*
No. of X-ray examinations	....	....	....	32

\*This includes repairs, alterations, &c. (93 cases).

The types of cases included Rachitic and other deformities, Paralysis and a variety of other abnormalities.



Massage, Electrical Treatment and Remedial Exercises :—  
Number of attendances made for treatment 1,688.

Result of Orthopædic Treatment :—

Cases Discharged. No further treatment required....	130
„ which have left school or left the town ....	7
„ parents decline further treatment ....	12
„ transferred to Special Schools ....	2

Ionization Treatment :—

Number of attendances made for treatment 145.

I have to thank Mr. Harman Taylor for the following remarks on the work for the year 1946 :—

At a time when the Borough is celebrating the centenary of its Charter, it is not amiss to look back and see how much has been done under the aegis of the Borough's Education Authority in regard to the physical well-being of its young citizens.

The advent of the first European War brought a realization of the importance of physical fitness in the young citizens of the country. Largely through the instrumentality of that great orthopaedic surgeon, Sir Robert Jones, a great impetus was given to the care of crippled men. As a result of the propagation of the knowledge which emanated from him and his followers, there was a great diffusion of orthopaedic knowledge sent out into the country, and taken up by the medical profession. This had its repercussions in the general life of the country, and so it was that from the care of the adult cripple, the care of the young cripple came into being.

Early in the '20s of this century, the Borough Education Authority took up the idea of rectifying the deformities made by disease and injury in the children attending the various schools in the Borough. A thorough comb-out was instituted, and cases were dealt with systematically by the Borough at its local hospital. I was privileged to be appointed to the post of Orthopaedic Surgeon to supervise this type of work. During the past twenty-three years I have served the Borough in this capacity there have been brought before me schoolchildren who have been found by the assistant medical officers to be suffering from some form of deformity, and these children have been taken in hand and their deformities rectified and 'after' treatment carried on in such a way that it is good for one to be able to state that the majority of these children are now citizens of the Borough earning their own living, and having little or no deformities within them.

As the years have gone by, the serious cases of disability in schoolchildren have almost entirely disappeared, and to-day the Clinic contains cases which can be dealt with successfully and efficiently so that practically no permanent disability remains. Thus, during the past year, the statistics shew that there has been a diminution in the number of cases dealt with during the year, and it is good to be able to report that there have been no cases of severe crippling or disease or injury in the children that are under the care of the Authority.

Two types of cases, however, are noted which are of interest because there has been an increase in this particular type during the past few years. I refer to the number of children suffering from transient foot trouble, such as flat foot, and curvature of the spine. No less than sixty-two children have required treatment at the Clinic during the past year for the condition known as flat foot, and nineteen children are undergoing treatment for "round shoulderedness." A course of remedial exercises extending for three months and alterations to the shoes will get rid of these troubles.

The "round shoulderedness" brings about, in time, impaired action of the chest, and unless corrected could bring about more serious trouble in adult life. The attitude of "sloppy" shoulders is often accompanied by a general slackness in the morale of the individual; they tend to become "sloppy-minded."



It is well, therefore, that these early disabilities are taken in hand, and thus there is a restoration in the young adult, not only of a sense of well-being, but a general pride in physical appearance. This work of restoring a pride by "rightness" in one's body is bound to have a reaction on the general morale of the growing individual.

The close affinity of this Clinic's work with the Child Welfare Clinic, ensures the continuation of treatment from the cradle to the age when the child comes under the care of the Education Authority. I consider that such work has been well worth doing, and that the Borough in its year of rejoicing can also glory in the fact that it has sponsored this work to the full by giving those immediately concerned with the work every facility in the way of equipment that has led to such a satisfactory state of things in the year of the Borough's Centenary.

HARMAN TAYLOR,  
Visiting Orthopaedic Surgeon.

## F.—Treatment of Uncleanliness.

The "surprise" visits to the schools were carried out as usual during the year.

2,453 pupils were found in a more or less uncleanly condition at the special visits made during 1946, against 2,534 in 1945.

Of the above, 30 were in such a state as to warrant exclusion from school (14 boys and 16 girls).

### "Surprise" Visits.

During 1946, an average of 12.5 surprise visits were paid to each school in the borough.

There are 45 departments in the 22 schools, and each department is visited at least once each term.

The following are the particulars of the "surprise" visits for the past 9 years :—

Year	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Number of Schools in the Borough.....	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22
Average number of visits per annum paid by Nurses to school.....	8.3	8.3	8.2	9.5	9.5	12.1	15	15.5	12.5
Total number of examinations made by School Nurses of pupils .....	34963	28910	31550	31919	30784	28946	30049	28532	27130
Number of pupils found unclean (2453), excluded.....	47	16	12	19	19	37	23	69	30
Number found suffering from Infectious Disease and minor ailments excluded.....	77	83	64	137	336	162	129	58	40

**Legal Proceedings** are taken when necessary, but no action was required during 1946.

### G.—Treatment of all Other Defects.

The other defects found at Routine Inspection, except infectious diseases and tuberculosis which are referred at once to the Health Department, received consideration.

It has been the practice to refer such cases to their own doctor, but where the parents have been unable to afford this they have been assisted to obtain recommendations for attendance at the local Infirmary and Dispensary, or, if necessary, from the Domiciliary Medical Services.

During the latter part of the year negotiations were in progress with local hospitals with a view to ensuring that comprehensive facilities for free medical treatment are readily available to school-children under the provisions of Section 48(3) of the Education Act, 1944. A scheme was drawn up in December and, subject to the approval of the Minister of Education, this scheme will take effect from the 1st January, 1947.

### Tuberculosis.

All children suffering from or suspected to be suffering from this disease, are referred to the Tuberculosis Dispensary.

#### (a) Dispensary.

During 1946 there were the following examinations :—

	No. of Cases.	No. of Examinations.
Tuberculosis of lungs	2	2
Suspected cases and contacts	72	83
Tuberculosis of glands	15	19
„ „ abdomen	—	—
„ „ bones and joints	8	8
„ „ other organs	1	1
Totals	98	113

Treatment has been provided at various institutions, as follows :—

#### (b) In Residential Institutions.

Five children of school age received in-patient treatment during the year.

	Warrington Sanatorium Hefferston Grange	Warrington General Hospital	Leasowe Hospital	Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital	Total
Tuberculosis of :—					
Bones and Joints	—	—	1	2	3
Glands	—	1	—	—	1
Peritoneum	—	—	—	—	—
Lungs	1	—	—	—	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>

### (c) Out-patients.

Three children of school age received out-patient treatment at the following hospitals :—

				Warrington General Hospital
Tuberculosis of Cervical Glands ....	....	....	....	1
„ „ Bones and Joints....	....	....	....	2

3 were still receiving treatment on the 31st December, 1946.

The 3 cases attending the Warrington General Hospital Clinic made 24 attendances.

The actual incidence of tuberculosis amongst the school children of Warrington as known to us on the 31st December, 1946, was as follows :—

		Attending school.		Not attending school.		Total.
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
Tuberculosis of Lungs	....	—	—	1	—	1
„ „ Glands	....	5	2	1	—	8
„ „ Bones and Joints	.... ....	2	3	1	1	7
Total	....	7	5	3	1	16

### X-ray Examinations.

These were carried out at the X-ray Department of the Warrington General Hospital. The number of X-ray examinations during the year was 78. This work has been found to be essential for accurate diagnosis.

## 8.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The measures taken to prevent the spread of infectious disease have been the same as in previous years. The daily visitation of schools by the nurses has assisted this work considerably.



The number of cases of notifiable infectious disease occurring among School children during 1946 were as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	....	....	....	....	....	59
Diphtheria	....	....	....	....	....	9
Measles	....	....	....	....	....	197
Whooping Cough	....	....	....	....	....	66
Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	....	26
Erysipelas	....	....	....	....	....	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	....	....	....	....	....	1
Other Tubercular Diseases	....	....	....	....	....	5
Total						<hr/> 364 <hr/>

The following statement gives the number of children examined by the Medical Officer as to freedom from infection.

Scarlet Fever (convalescents)	....	....	....	....	....	51
Diphtheria (convalescents)	....	....	....	....	....	4
Typhoid Fever	....	....	....	....	....	1
Contacts with cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria or Cerebro-Spinal Fever examined previous to being allowed to attend school	....	....	....	....	....	82
Sore Throat cases before being allowed to return to school	....	....	....	....	....	
Other doubtful cases before being allowed to return to school	....	....	....	....	....	

## Deaths.

The following is a list showing the causes of death among children of school age.

Broncho-Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	....	1
Heart Disease	....	....	....	....	....	1
T.B. Meningitis	....	....	....	....	....	2
Accidents	....	....	....	....	....	4
						<hr/> 8 <hr/>

## Immunization against Diphtheria.

During the year 100 children attending school were immunized at the schools and Clinic, as compared with 326 in the previous year.

In every instance the written consent of the parents or guardians is previously obtained and no child is immunized unless consent is given.

At the school, the Head Teacher always assists by getting the written consent of the parents, and they also muster the children when they have to be treated. A nurse is in attendance to assist in the treatment and keep a record of it on a special card.

## 9.—PROVISION OF MILK AND MEALS.

### (a) Milk

The scheme for the supply of milk in schools continued in operation as in previous years until August, 1946, since when arrangements have been made for each pupil to receive one-third of a pint of milk daily, free of charge.

As it is absolutely essential that any scheme for the provision of milk to growing children should ensure that the supply is free from the tubercle bacillus, we have made it a condition that all supplies should be either "Pasteurised" or "Tuberculin Tested." At the moment only pasteurised milk is being supplied.

### (b) Meals

Arrangements for the provision of meals in schools have been in force since 1941. Meals are served in all the schools, and are supplied by the Education Committee's four kitchens, a British Restaurant, and a Ministry of Food Cooking Depot.

The charge made for dinner is 5d. per meal, but free meals are supplied to children of parents whose income is within the Committee's scale.

The following table shows the number of children who received a midday meal on a single day in October, 1946, together with comparative figures for October, 1945, and October, 1944.

Date	No. of pupils in attendance	Received Free Meals	Received Meals for Payment	Total	Percentage of pupils receiving Meals
October, 1946	11325	806	2940	3746	33.10
„ 1945	10889	673	2343	3016	27.70
„ 1944	10793	673	2068	2741	25.40

Since the inauguration of the scheme, there has been a gradual increase in the number of meals supplied daily, and this increase was again maintained during the year.

## 10.—OPEN-AIR EDUCATION.

There are four schools of the semi-open-air type, which are particularly well ventilated and lighted and capable of being thrown open on two sides. They are well provided with playing space and their favourable environment should be of assistance in promoting the health of the scholars.

In the older schools when circumstances permit, playground classes are organised as there are no class rooms of an open-air type in them.



## II.—PHYSICAL TRAINING.

There are two Physical Training Organisers appointed to organise physical training in the schools.

**Swimming Instruction** was given to children from some schools during the year.

## 12.—CO-OPERATION OF PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS, PARENTS, TEACHERS, SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS AND VOLUNTARY BODIES.

### (a) **General Practitioners.**

We are greatly indebted to the private doctors in the town for the cordial manner in which they co-operate with us.

We refer all cases whose circumstances warrant it to the family doctor for treatment and the family doctor in return does not hesitate to avail himself promptly of any facilities for treatment offered by the Local Authority that he considers his patient requires.

### (b) **Parents.**

In 1,317 instances (42.1%) out of 3,127 examinations at routine medical inspections, one or both of the parents were present.

### (c) **Teachers.**

The success of the work of the School Medical Service is due in large measure to the help given by the Teachers, who co-operate both willingly and generously at medical inspections, and in the treatment and after-care of the children.

Once more our best thanks are due to the teachers, who are assisting so much in the improvement of the health of their pupils by the distribution of a daily supply of milk.

### (d) **School Attendance Officers.**

The School Attendance Officers have again rendered every assistance possible to our Department.

## 13.—HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

The following are the numbers of Handicapped Pupils who were in Special Schools on the 31st December, 1946 :—

Blind	....	....	....	....	....	4
Partially-sighted	....	....	....	....	....	6
Deaf	....	....	....	....	....	5
Delicate	....	....	....	....	....	2
Educationally Sub-normal	....	....	....	....	....	7
Physically Handicapped	....	....	....	....	....	2

A full return of all categories of Handicapped Pupils in the area on the 31st December, 1946, is given in Table VI on page 39.



## 14.—TRAINING OF DISABLED PERSONS.

At the age of 16 years blind children are transferred to institutions for training. Before this is done, the local Society for the Blind is consulted as to the occupation which is likely to be most suitable for the student, from the point of view of employment in the future.

During 1946, there was 1 person in training in an institution for the blind.

There are no Deaf, Epileptic or other Handicapped Pupils in training.

There is co-operation with the local Deaf and Dumb Society and the Northern Counties' Association for the Blind, and the services of the Education Committee's Choice of Employment department are used in finding suitable employment for deaf children when they leave school.

The Local Authority does not maintain any training courses of its own.

## 15.—SECONDARY GRAMMAR SCHOOLS.

There are two Secondary Grammar Schools in the Borough—one for girls (the High School) and one for boys (the Boteler Grammar School)—and one Junior Technical School.

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Education (Form 8M) the results of medical inspection and treatment since 1st April, 1945, of the children attending these schools have been included in the figures of the Third Age Group.

## 16.—NURSERY CLASSES

194 children were examined by the Assistant School Medical Officer at Routine Medical Inspections in the Nursery Classes during the year. Details of these examinations are now shown under the heading "Other Routine Inspections" in Table I, and particulars of the treatment given are included in the treatment tables.

The work of the School Nurses in connection with the Nursery Classes is summarised below :—

Number of visits to Nursery Classes	....	....	....	....	....	465
„ „ extra visits <i>re</i> inspection	....	....	....	....	....	17
„ „ "surprise" visits	....	....	....	....	....	76
					Total	558
Number of children examined	....	....	....	....	....	1066
„ „ „ „ <i>re</i> infection	....	....	....	....	....	144
					Total	1210

Number excluded on account of :—

	Boys	Girls	Total
Impetigo (Scalp) ....	6	3	9
"      (Skin) ....	7	4	11
Scabies ....	5	3	8
Pediculosis (Scalp) ....	2	6	8
Infectious diseases ....	11	3	14
Total	31	19	50

Number treated on account of :—

Impetigo (Scalp) ....	4	40	44
"      (Skin) ....	251	286	537
Eczema ....	15	6	21
Eyes ....	35	54	89
Ears ....	53	134	187
Total	358	520	878
Pediculosis (Scalp) ....	14	110	124

## 17.—HEALTH EDUCATION.

A large amount of health teaching goes on daily in our schools and the handbook of the Board of Education on "Suggestions on Health Education" is in general use.

Education in matters of health is continually being given by teachers in the schools, and School Nurses consistently add their contribution during the performance of their duties.

Up-to-date literature supplied by the Health and Cleanliness Council and the Dental Board of the United Kingdom is freely distributed; while "Better Health," a monthly magazine, is widely circulated among the school populace.

## 18.—SPECIAL INQUIRIES.

There have been no special inquiries during the year under review.

## 19.—EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN.

During the year, 126 children were examined by the A.S.M.O. as to their suitability to undertake work out of school hours.

98 Employment Certificates were in use on the 31st December. The following is a list of the occupations :—

	Boys.	Girls.
Delivery of Newspapers ....	84	—
Delivery of Milk ....	5	2
Drapers' and Outfitters' Errands ....	1	—
Butchers' Errands ....	3	—
Fruiterers' and Greengrocers' Errands ....	2	—
Other Tradesmen's Errands ....	1	—
	96	2

TABLE I

(i) Number of Inspections in the Prescribed Groups :—

Entrants	Age 3		Age 4		Age 5		Age 6		Age 7		Age 8		Total
	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	B.	G.	
	11	5	76	76	350	316	229	206	20	23	1	5	
Intermediates									Age 10		Age 10		Total
									Boys		Girls		
									579		509		
Leavers					Age 13		Jun. Tech. School		Total				
					Boys	Girls	Boys						
					258	251	11						520
Total .... 2926													

(ii) Number of Other Routine Inspections :—

	Boys	Girls	Total
Partially-sighted Class ....	4	3	7
Nursery Classes....	109	85	194
GRAND TOTAL ....			3127

*B.—Other Inspections.*

Special Inspections	....	....	....	....	1745
Re-inspections	....	....	....	....	622
Total	....	....	....	....	2367

*C.—Pupils found to require Treatment*

Prescribed Groups :—

	Defective Vision.	Others.	Total.
Entrants	19	90	109
Intermediates	47	66	108
Leavers	12	6	18
Total	78	162	235
Other Routine Inspections	2	19	21
Grand Total	80	181	256



D.--RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION  
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1946

Defect or Disease  (1)	Number of Defects			
	Routine Inspections		Special Inspections	
	Requiring treatment (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation but NOT requiring treatment (3)	Requiring treatment (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation but NOT requiring treatment (5)
Skin—				
Ringworm (Scalp) .....	—	—	—	—
"      (Body) .....	—	—	—	—
Scabies .....	17	—	—	—
Impetigo .....	5	—	—	—
Other Diseases (non-Tuberculous) .....	4	2	—	—
Eye—				
Blepharitis .....	3	—	—	—
Conjunctivitis .....	—	—	—	—
Keratitis .....	—	—	—	—
Corneal Opacities .....	—	—	—	—
Defective Vision (excluding Squint) .....	61	1	306	1
Squint .....	19	1	116	2
Other Conditions .....	—	2	—	—
Ear—				
Defective Hearing .....	—	2	—	2
Otitis Media .....	—	—	—	—
Other Ear Diseases .....	16	6	16	—
Nose and Throat—				
Chronic Tonsilitis only .....	84	82	108	—
Adenoids only .....	6	5	18	—
Chronic Tonsilitis and Adenoids .....	12	1	69	2
Other Conditions .....	—	1	1	—
Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous) .....	—	—	—	—
Defective Speech .....	—	24	2	5
Heart and Circulation—				
Heart Disease :				
Organic .....	—	7	—	—
Functional .....	—	3	—	—
Anæmia .....	—	1	—	1
Lungs—				
Bronchitis .....	—	3	—	—
Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases .....	—	3	—	1

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Tuberculosis—				
Pulmonary :				
Definite .....	—	—	—	—
Suspected .....	—	—	—	—
Non-Pulmonary :				
Glands .....	—	—	—	—
Spine .....	—	1	—	—
Hip .....	—	1	—	—
Other bones & joints	—	—	—	—
Skin .....	—	—	—	—
Other forms .....	—	—	—	—
Nervous System—				
Epilepsy .....	—	5	—	3
Chorea .....	—	5	—	2
Other Conditions.....	—	4	—	1
Deformities—				
Rickets .....	—	—	2	—
Spinal Curvature .....	2	2	3	—
Other forms .....	34	11	20	—
Other Defects and Diseases (excluding defects of Nutri- tion, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases) .....	5	65	39	2
Total .....	268	238	700	22

TABLE II

CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED  
DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS

Age-Groups	No. of Pupils inspected	A		B		C (Slightly sub-normal)		D (Bad)	
		(Excellent)		(Normal)					
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Orphans .....	1318	205	15.56	1034	78.45	72	5.46	7	0.53
Intermediates .....	1088	96	8.83	895	82.26	90	8.27	7	0.64
Boys .....	509	88	17.29	365	71.71	53	10.41	3	0.59
Senior Tech. School	11	3	27.27	8	72.73	—	—	—	—
Under Routine									
Inspections—									
Partially-sighted class	7	2	28.57	3	42.86	2	28.57	—	—
Nursery classes .....	194	39	20.10	136	70.10	19	9.80	—	—
Total .....	3127	433	13.85	2441	78.06	236	7.55	17	0.54

RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED DURING THE YEAR  
ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1946.

TREATMENT TABLES.

TABLE III.

GROUP I.—*Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness) :—*

Defect or Disease.  (1)	Number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme (2)	Otherwise (3)	Total (4)
<i>Skin—</i>			
Ringworm—Scalp.			
(i) X-Ray Treatment ....	3	—	3
(ii) Other " ....	—	—	—
Ringworm—Body ....	5	—	5
Scabies ....	111	—	111
Impetigo ....	179	17	196
Other Skin Diseases ....	—	—	—
<i>Minor Eye Defects—</i>			
(External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.) ....	2	1	3
<i>Minor Ear Defects</i> ....	—	—	—
<i>Miscellaneous—</i>			
(e.g. minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.) ....	22	37	59
Total ....	322	55	377

GROUP II.—*Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.).*

Defect or Disease.  (1)	Number of Defects dealt with.			
	Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)	Submitted to refraction by private practitioner or at hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. (3)	Other-wise. (4)	Total. (5)
Errors of Refraction (including Squint) ....	511	2	8	521
Other Defects or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those in Group I.) ....	1	—	—	1
Total ....	512	2	8	522



Continued.

*Total number of Children for whom Spectacles were prescribed :—*

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	....	....	217
(b) Otherwise	....	....	6

*Total number of Children who obtained or received Spectacles :—*

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme	....	....	198
(b) Otherwise	....	....	6

GROUP III.—*Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat :—*

## NUMBER OF DEFECTS.

Received Operative Treatment.				Received other forms of Treatment	Total number treated
Under the Authority's Scheme in Clinic or Hospital		By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme	Total		
(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Tonsils only.	Adenoids only.	Tonsils & Other Adenoids.			
288		4	292	35	327

GROUP IV.—*Orthopaedic and Postural Defects :—*

Number of Pupils treated	Under the Authority's Scheme			
	Residential treatment with education	Residential treatment without education	Non- residential treatment at an orthopædic Clinic	Total number treated
	—	—	215	215

TABLE IV  
DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Dentist :—

(a) Routine Age Groups	....	{	Aged 3	....	6	}	Total	....	11361			
			4	....	135							
			5	....	744							
			6	....	1122							
			7	....	1276							
			8	....	1193							
			9	....	1216							
			10	....	1194							
			11	....	1116							
			12	....	1145							
			13	....	1076							
			14	....	815							
(b) Specials	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	797			
										Grand Total	....	12158
(2)	Number found to require treatment	....	....	....	....	8287						
(3)	Number actually treated	....	....	....	....	4253						
(4)	Attendances made by pupils for treatment	....	....	....	4902							
(5)	Number of half-days devoted to :	Inspection	....	....	127	610						
		Treatment	....	....	483							
(6)	Fillings :	Permanent teeth	....	....	....	1374	1388					
		Temporary teeth	....	....	....	14						
(7)	Extractions :	Permanent teeth	....	....	....	900	5375					
		Temporary teeth	....	....	....	4475						
(8)	Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions	....	....	....	3374							
(9)	Other Operations :	Permanent teeth	....	....	....	315	315					
		Temporary teeth	....	....	....	—						

TABLE V

UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(i) Total number of examinations of pupils in the Schools by School Nurses for uncleanness	....	...	....	27,130
(ii) Number of individual pupils found unclean	....	....	....	2,453

TABLE VI.

RETURN OF ALL HANDICAPPED PUPILS IN THE AUTHORITY'S  
AREA ON THE 31st DECEMBER, 1946.

	In special schools		In maintained primary & secondary schools		In independ- ent schools		Not at school		Total	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
(a) Blind .....	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
(b) Partially- sighted	4	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	5	3
(c) Deaf .....	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
(d) Partially- deaf	—	—	6	3	—	—	—	—	6	3
(e) Delicate.....	2	—	19	22	—	1	2	—	23	23
(f) Diabetic .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(g) Education- ally Sub- normal.....	4	3	70	62	—	—	2	1	76	66
(h) Epileptic ....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
(i) Maladjusted	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
(j) Physically handicapped	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
(k) Pupils suffering from speech defect	—	—	60	13	—	—	—	—	60	13
(l) Pupils suffering from multiple disabilities*	—	—	15	4	—	—	1	—	16	4

\*The types of disabilities included under this heading are as follows :—

Educationally Sub-Normal :	Epileptic :	Physically Handicapped	1
Educationally Sub-Normal :	Physically Handicapped	....	.... 1
Delicate :	Educationally Sub-Normal	....	.... 4
Educationally Sub-Normal :	Defective Speech	....	.... 14



STATEMENT OF THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN NOTIFIED BY  
THE LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY TO THE LOCAL MENTAL  
DEFICIENCY AUTHORITY DURING THE EDUCATIONAL YEAR  
1945-46.

	Boys	Girls
Notified under Section 57(3) of the Education Act, 1944 ....	6	1
Notified under Section 57(5) of the Education Act, 1944 ....	—	—